Atty. reference: FEC 104

REMARKS

The Examiner's Action mailed on November 23, 2005, has been received and its contents carefully considered. Additionally attached to this Amendment is a Request for Continued Examination, together with applicable fee. Should the remittance be accidentally missing or insufficient, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 18-0002.

In this Amendment, Applicant has made an editorial change to claim 1 and added new claim 21. Claims 1, 16 and 19 are the independent claims, and claims 1-21 are pending in the application. The claims are submitted to be patentably distinguishable over the various references for at least the reasons presented in the Amendment filed on September 19, 2005, the subject matter of which is hereby incorporated by reference.

It is submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Such action and the passing of this case to issue are requested.

Should the Examiner feel that a conference would help to expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is hereby invited to contact the undersigned counsel to arrange for such an interview.

Respectfully submitted,

February 1, 2006

Date

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RHB/vm